Honorable Franklin D. Burgess 1 2 3 4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 5 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA 6 7 BECKSON MARINE, INC., a Connecticut Cause No. C98-05531 FDB corporation; CAROLE A. BECKERER, 8 ELOISE BRADY and JOAN A. JONES, 9 Custodians. JOINT REQUEST FOR STAY PENDING REEXAMINATION OF PATENT-IN-Plaintiffs, SUIT AND ORDER 10 11 **Noted for Consideration:** v. **Upon Receipt** 12 NFM, INC., a Washington corporation, 13 Defendant. 14 JOINT REQUEST FOR STAY PENDING REEXAMINATION 15 The parties jointly request that this action be stayed pending reexamination. The basis 16 for this request arises from the denial by the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the 17 motion filed by Beckson Marine, Inc. to dismiss the reexamination proceeding filed by NFM, 18 Inc. of U.S. Patent No. 4,363,350, the patent-in-suit, in light of the Davis reference, U.S. Patent 19 304,183. Please see Exhibit A attached hereto. 20 When a petition for reexamination is filed, the USPTO must decide within three months 21 whether or not there is a substantial question of patentability. 35 U.S.C. § 303(a). If a substantial 22 question of patentability is found, the patent will be reexamined, and the patent owner will have 23 a chance to respond. 35 U.S.C. § 304. 24 JOINT REQUEST FOR STAY -- C98-5531 FDB STRATTON BALLEW PLLC

JOINT REQUEST FOR STAY -- C98-5531 FD Page 1 of 1

STRATTON BALLEW PLLC 18850 – 103rd AVENUE S.W., SUITE 102 VASHON ISLAND, WASHINGTON 98070 TEL: (206) 682-1496 • FAX: (206) 260-3816

Case 3:98-cv-05531-FDB Document 284 Filed 03/10/06 Page 2 of 2

1 As reexamination of the '350 is now indeed proceeding with expedition, the parties 2 believe that it is in the best interest of justice and the use of judicial resources to stay the trial of 3 the damage issue until the reexamination of the '350 patent is completed by the Patent Office. 4 The parties further respectfully request prompt action by the Court on this request as the 5 pretrial stage of the damage phase of this matter requires significant work by both counsel and the Court. The pretrial order is to be lodged on March 16, 2006 and the Pretrial Conference is 6 7 set for March 24, 2006. 8 Respectfully Submitted: March 9, 2006. 9 STRATTON BALLEW PLLC PATRICK M DWYER PC 10 11 By: /s/ Rex B. Stratton By: /s/ Patrick Michael Dwyer Rex B. Stratton, WSBA No. 1913 Patrick Michael Dwyer, WSBA No. 17,497 12 STRATTON BALLEW PLLC Patrick M Dwyer PC 18850 – 103rd Ave SW, Suite 102 1818 Westlake Avenue N, Suite 114 Vashon Island, WA 98070 Seattle, WA 98109 13 206-682-1496 Tel: Tel: 206-343-7074 206-260-3816 Fax: Email: pmdwyer@earthlink.net 14 Email: stratton@strattonballew.com 15 Attorneys for Plaintiffs Attorneys for Defendant 16 **ORDER** 17 So Ordered. Dated this 9th of March, 2006 18 19 FRÁNKLIN D. BURGESS 20 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE 21 22 23 24

JOINT REQUEST FOR STAY -- C98-5531 FDB Page 2 of 2

STRATTON BALLEW PLLC 18850 – 103rd AVENUE S.W., SUITE 102 VASHON ISLAND, WASHINGTON 98070 TEL: (206) 682-1496 • FAX: (206) 260-3816